

MASCOUTAH PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 20, 2026

The Board of Trustees of the Mascoutah Public Library held its regular meeting at the library on January 20, 2026 at 6:15 p.m.

Trustees present were Nancy Larson, Wayne Wilhelm, Suzy Friederich, Jordan Rehfeldt, Kay Connolly, Casey Hoercher and Merly Friedland; absent were Frank Bandre and Scot Erickson. Also present was Library Director Joel Pikora.

President Nancy Larson presided and Merly Friedland recorded the minutes.

Additions to Agenda – None Public Comments – None

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on November 18, 2025 were approved as written. (*Motion by Suzy, second by Kay*)

Financial Report: Joel presented the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2025, the statements of income and expenses for the months of November and December, 2025 and the 8-month year-to-date period from May 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Joel stated that operations have been proceeding normally and there are no issues or concerns to address at this time.. Ivy will be covered by health insurance in January, 2026. Hereunder is a summary of income and expenses at the end of eight months of this fiscal year, 8/12ths or at the 66.7% mark.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Property Taxes	\$427,184	\$429,000	99.6%
Other Taxes & Levies	80,687	94,500	85.6%
Gen. Revenue, Other Income	<u>37,865</u>	<u>36,816</u>	102.8%
TOTAL INCOME	545,736	560,316	97.4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>(431,417)</u>	(560,316)	77.0%
NET INCOME	\$114,319		
CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$580,504		

The Board unanimously approved the above financial statements and ordered that the same be filed for audit. (*Motion by Suzy, second by Kay*)

Committee Report : None

Director's Report: Please refer to the Director's detailed written report for the January, 2026 Board Meeting relating to operations and activities since the last meeting, the comparative Library Circulation Report for November-December 2024/November-December 2025, Non-Resident Registrations FY2025-2026 and Library Programming Report for November, December 2025.

Joel provided more information about upcoming activities.

A . VITA Tax Service – The library will be hosting VITA Tax Help services, with a greater focus on low

Director's Report: continued

income individuals. They will be at the library on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. starting February 7 until April 11.

B. Library Quiz Bowl League – After attending the ILA conference, Joel has a great idea of forming a Library Quiz Bowl League with different area libraries. He has presented the idea to fellow library directors and got positive feedback and interest. The participating libraries hope to begin the club in late February or early March.

C. ISHRAB Grant Update – We have started the digitization for this grant project. The process is going fairly well.

D. Leu Civic Center Closure – The Mascoutah City Council has announced their intent to close the Center in the near future, citing architect's report, ADA considerations and emergency safety concerns.

Further, Joel commented on library based e-mail, whether the contents are business or personal in nature. He will also look into the requirements for the review and audit of minutes of meetings.

Old Business: Tree Trimming Quote - We have obtained a quote from All Around Tree Care Services LLC for a comprehensive hard trimming and maintenance of all trees in the amount of \$1,374.62.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved, by unanimous voice vote, the foregoing stated Quote in the amount of \$1,374.62. (*Motion by Wayne, second by Kay*)

New Business: A. Review Budget Draft for FY 26-27- Joel presented the draft of this budget, as prepared by the Finance Committee, based on incoming year plans and needs. The proposed budget is \$585,600 for FY 26-27.

After a detailed review and discussion, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved and adopted a Budget of \$585,600 for FY26-27. (*Motion by Casey, second by Jordan*)

B. "Everything Mahomet " Article - Joel will find out from the Chamber of Commerce what logistics are involved.

C. Staff Computer Quote - Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved by unanimous voice vote, the Quote from Lazerware for Staff Laptop for \$1,480.44. (*Motion by Suzy, second by Kay*)

D. Automatic Door Maintenance Contract Renewal – Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved by unanimous voice vote, the Automatic Door Maintenance Contract Renewal with Allegion Access Technologies for three years in the amount of \$1,768. (*Motion by Casey, second by Wayne*)

E. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the trip and attendance of the library staff at the Reaching Forward South Conference, and further approved the closure of the library on Friday, April 10, 2026. (*Motion by Suzy, second by Wayne*)

Adjournment: There being no further business, President Nancy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be on March 16, 2026 at 6:15 p.m. at the Mascoutah Public Library, 3 West Church St., Mascoutah, IL.


Merly T. Friedland, Secretary